



LINDA PENNER

***Chief Probation Officer, Fresno County
Board Composition: Chief Probation Officer from a
county with a population over 200,000
(Appointed by the Governor)***

Linda Penner has been the Chief Probation Officer for the County of Fresno for the past seven years. Through her stewardship the department has transitioned to Evidenced Based Practices for recidivism reduction that encompasses community safety. Chief Penner has championed a culture that creates integrity, and professionalism, fairness and equity to courts and offenders. Chief Penner recognizes that public safety services include rehabilitation services and through her leadership has initiated policies, practices and services that promote fewer crime victims through an emphasis of assessment based accountability and programs.

The Fresno County Chief Probation Officer oversees a department that has over 20,000 juvenile and adult offenders under supervision. Under Chief Penner's direction, the construction and opening of the new Juvenile Justice Campus took place; the largest state-of-the-art juvenile justice facility in the State of California. This campus serves as a national model for the furtherance of juvenile justice. The department continues to place a high priority on services to juvenile offenders through prevention and intervention programs designed to support delinquency free lifestyles and accountability after adjudication. With the advent of realignment of adult populations in the state of California, Chief Penner has promoted a safety net in the county of Fresno through innovative supervision and service programs for the realigned population including a multi-agency supervision team and evidenced based services that form the nucleus of the public safety response to the legislation.

As President of the Chief Probation Officers of California, Chief Penner led the way to increased efficiencies and evidence based strategies and programs have resulted in the improved understanding of the role that probation departments must play in the development of future correctional efforts in California.